

**CLAIMS**

1. A hand-held dispenser for dispensing a multiplicity of unit products having a storage area for storing the unit products, an outlet opening through which the unit products are dispensable from the dispenser, a dispensing mechanism actuatable to dispense the unit products through the outlet opening, and a dispensing indicator for indicating the number of unit products left in, or dispensed from, the dispenser, the dispensing indicator being integrated with the dispenser such that it is automatically updated in response to the dispensing of the unit products therefrom.
2. The dispenser of claim 1 in which the dispensing indicator has a display to indicate the number of unit products left or dispensed.
3. The dispenser of claim 2 in which the dispensing indicator is adapted to represent the number of unit products left or remaining in graphical form on the display.
4. The dispenser of claim 3 in which the number of unit products is represented with numerical indicia.
5. The dispenser of any one of claims 2-4 in which the display is an electronic display.

6. The dispenser of any one of the preceding claims wherein the dispensing indicator is an electronic indicator.

5 7. The dispenser of any one of the preceding claims in which the dispensing indicator is a dispensing counter.

8. The dispenser of any one of the preceding  
10 claims wherein the dispensing indicator is operatively coupled to the dispensing mechanism such that the indicator is updated in response to actuation of the dispensing mechanism.

15 9. The dispenser of claim 8 in which the dispensing indicator is operatively coupled to the dispensing mechanism through a detector which is adapted to detect actuation of the dispensing mechanism.

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10. The dispenser of any one of the preceding claims wherein the dispensing mechanism is operatively coupled to a detector, which is adapted to detect dispensing of unit products from the outlet opening,  
25 such that the dispensing indicator is updated in response to detection by the detector of dispensing of unit products from the outlet opening.

11. The dispenser of claim 9 or 10 when appended  
30 directly or indirectly to claim 5 wherein the dispensing indicator has an electrical control circuit

for controlling the display and the detector(s) is a trigger(s) for the circuit.

12.           The dispenser of claim 11 wherein the  
5 trigger(s) is a switch operable to trigger the circuit.

13.           The dispenser of claim 12 when appended to  
claim 9 wherein the dispensing mechanism is adapted to  
10 operate the switch when actuated.

14.           The dispenser of claim 12 when appended to  
claim 10 wherein the switch is positioned so as to be  
operated by the unit product(s).

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15.           The dispenser of any one of the preceding  
claims having the unit products.

16.           The dispenser of claim 15 wherein the unit  
20 products are pharmaceutical products.

17.           The dispenser of claim 16 wherein the  
pharmaceutical products are oral dosage forms.

25 18.           The dispenser of claim 15, 16 or 17 wherein  
the unit products are pills.

19.           The dispenser of any one of the preceding  
claims in which the dispensing mechanism is adapted to  
30 dispense a predetermined number of unit products per  
actuation.

20. The dispenser of claim 19 wherein the predetermined number is one.

5 21. The dispenser of any one of the preceding claims wherein the storage area is provided in a first dispenser part and the dispensing indicator and outlet opening are provided in a second dispenser part attached to the first dispenser part.

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22. The dispenser of claim 21 wherein the dispensing mechanism is provided in the second dispenser part.

15 23. The dispenser of claim 21 or 22 wherein the first and second dispenser parts are releasably attached.

20 24. The dispenser of claim 21, 22 or 23 wherein the first dispenser part has an access opening through which the unit products are transferable from the storage area into the second dispenser part and the dispenser has a closure which is selectively connectable with the first and second dispenser parts  
25 to respectively close the access opening and the outlet opening.

25. The dispenser of claim 24 wherein the closure is a cap.

26. The dispenser of claim 24 or 25 wherein the closure, on the one hand, and the first and second dispenser parts, on the other hand, have co-operable connecting structures for selectively connecting the  
5 closure to the first and second dispenser parts.

27. The dispenser of claim 26 wherein the connecting structures on the first and second dispenser parts are the same.

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28. The dispenser of claim 26 or 27 wherein the second dispenser part has a further connecting structure which is co-operable with the connecting structure of the first dispenser part which co-  
15 operates with the connecting structure of the closure to enable connection of the first and second dispenser parts.

29. A dispensing module for attachment to a  
20 container for a multiplicity of unit products in the form of the second dispenser part of claim 22 or any one of claims 23-28 when appended to claim 22.

30. A hand-held dispenser for dispensing a  
25 multiplicity of unit products substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to, and illustrated by, FIGURES 2-12 or FIGURES 13-14 of the accompanying drawings.

30 31. A dispensing module for attachment to a container for a multiplicity of unit products

substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to, and illustrated by, FIGURES 2-12 or FIGURES 13-14 of the accompanying drawings.